

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Death penalty

29 September 1992

SUDAN:

Zo al-Noon al-Tigani - former soldier  
al-Bashir Rahama Obeid  
al-Hadi Jar al-Najm

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Amnesty International has learned that the three men named above have been sentenced to death by hanging for waging war against the state and illegal possession of firearms. Zo al-Noon al-Tigani has additionally been sentenced to the public crucifixion of his body after death. The case was heard in a criminal court in ad-Daien, a town in Southern Darfur in western Sudan, and it is thought that the sentences were passed on 28 September 1992.

The three men were among several who were arrested in May and June 1992 and subsequently charged with, among other charges, attempting to recruit men from the Rizeiqat ethnic group to the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). The trial opened in ad-Daien on 23 August.

Among those charged was Sid Ahmad al-Hussein, Minister of Foreign Affairs under the civilian government of Sadiq al-Mahdi which was overthrown in a military coup on 30 June 1989. Within a few days Sid Ahmad al-Hussein was acquitted of all charges and released. At least two other men, whose names are unknown, were sentenced to 14 years in prison and fines of £S 250,000 (\$US 2,500).

The sentences have to be confirmed by the Head of State but it is not known if the men have the right to appeal to a higher court.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/express and airmail letters either in English, Arabic or in your own language:**

- expressing concern that Zo al-Noon al-Tigani, al-Bashir Rahama Obeid and al-Hadi Jar al-Najm have been sentenced to death and that, in the case of Zo al-Noon al-Tigani, his body is to be publicly crucified;

- explaining Amnesty International's opposition to the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

- referring to basic safeguards adopted by the United Nations in May 1984 to protect the rights of anyone facing the death penalty, one of which stipulates that anyone sentenced to death should have right of appeal to a higher court;

- appealing for commutation of their death sentences.

**APPEALS TO:**

1) His Excellency Lieutenant General **Salutation: Your Excellency**  
Omar Hassan al-Bashir  
Head of State and Chairman of the National Salvation  
Revolutionary Command Council  
People's Palace  
PO Box 281  
Khartoum, Sudan  
**Telegrams: Lt Gen Omar Hassan al-Bashir, Khartoum, Sudan**  
**Telexes: 22385 PEPLC SD or 22411 KAID SD**

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2) Brigadier-General al-Zubeir Mohamed Saleh **Salutation: Your Excellency**  
Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of the  
Interior and Deputy Chairman of the  
National Salvation Revolutionary Command Council  
People's Palace  
PO Box 281  
Khartoum, Sudan  
**Telegrams: Brig-Gen al-Zubeir Mohamed Saleh, Khartoum, Sudan**  
**Telexes: 22842 WZARA SD or 22604 IPOL SD**

3) Mr Abdullah Idris **Salutation: Dear Minister**  
Minister of Justice and Attorney-General  
Ministry of Justice  
Khartoum, Sudan  
**Telegrams: Minister of Justice Abdullah Idris, Khartoum, Sudan**  
**Telexes: 22459 KHRJA SD or 22461 KHRJA SD**  
**(via Ministry of Foreign Affairs)**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

1) Mr Jalal Ali Lutfi  
Chief Justice  
Law Courts  
Khartoum  
Sudan

2) Mr Ali Sahloul  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
PO BOX 873  
Khartoum  
Sudan

and to diplomatic representatives of Sudan accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 14 November 1992.